

Chief, Industrial Division

19 February 1959 *our*

Chief, Producers' Equipment Branch

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Chrono*

Recent Intelligence Publications on Trade in Chemical Equipment.

We have located the following articles on chemical equipment in OCI and ORR publications published since 1 June 1958:

25X6A (1) OCI, CIWR of 12 June 58 "Soviet Interest in Western Plants and Equipment" contains information on USSR negotiations for a [redacted] tire plant and a European synthetic fiber plant; three synthetic fiber and cellophane plants; and synthetic fiber plants from the U.S.

25X1A9a (2) ORR/CSM No. 588, 16 June 58 "Large Expansion Planned for Soviet Chemical Industry in 1959-65" (equipment part written by [redacted] devotes one paragraph to Soviet efforts to import chemical equipment.

(3) OCI, CID of 19 June 58 "USSR Negotiates the Purchase of Western Chemical Plants". Three-paragraph article discusses contract signed by American firm for construction of three synthetic fiber plants in the USSR; also a contract with [redacted] and plans for obtaining chemical equipment from [redacted] worth "\$58,000,000". This figure is a mistake -- should read \$5-8,000,000. 25X6A 25X6A

(4) OCI, CIB, 31 Oct 58 "USSR in Advanced Negotiations for Western Chemical Plants", reported the prospective USSR purchase of a polyethylene plant from a West German firm, (the deal subsequently fell through) and in the comment recounted several such deals that had occurred since May.

None of the above articles summarizes trade in chemical equipment in any detail; several of them contain errors or the situation has since changed; none of them give the ruble value figures for total trade in chemical equipment for 1955-1957 such as is contained in the new memo. Furthermore the new memo contains information on new deals which developed in the period December - February and ties in trade with Soviet plans for development of their chemical industry.

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[redacted]